**COMPOSTING**

quickly ground worms trash slowly die living-being humus compost happier day teach

small meat feeding microorganisms energy air microscope water recycling

Compost is nature's way of \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_. In autumn, a tree's leaves fall to the \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_. The leaves' \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ goes back into the dirt. Now, Earth can use the energy again.

Nature never loses energy, thank to a few little helpers in the ground called \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_. Micro means \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ and organism means \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ -\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_. We can only see microorganisms through a \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_.

When plants and animals \_\_\_\_, microorganisms have a \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ frenzy. With the help of larger critters like bugs and \_\_\_\_\_\_\_, microorganisms eat almost everything that falls to the ground. The microorganisms' work turns trash into a super rich mix called \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_.

The breakdown of energy happens \_\_\_\_\_\_\_ in nature, but it happens in compost.

\_\_\_\_\_\_ must not be added to compost as it attracts dogs, cats, and other animals that would dig through it.

Just like people, compost needs \_\_\_\_\_. Oxygen keeps away stinky bacteria and it feeds the good bacteria. The best compost has a perfect mix of air and \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_.

Compost stays healthy when it is kept warm. As good bacteria zip around feasting on \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_, they create their own heat. When it is warm the ingredients quickly break apart and this speeds up the \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ process.

Aren't worms amazing? They carry water, air and nutrients througout the compost pile, taking these imprtant things to the microorganisms. Worms don't have \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_, but they can sense \_\_\_\_\_\_\_ to get around.

AND, they eat their own weight in food every \_\_\_\_\_\_\_!

When we allow nature to \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ us, or planet is a \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ and more beautiful place to live.